

## Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-02

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DRAFTED BY:AF/C:TKILLORAN

APPROVED BY:AF/C:TRBUCHANAN

EUR:KELLEY

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O 121633Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

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FOLLOWING SENT ACTION TO LAGOS LOURENCO MARQUES LUSAKA KINSHASA  
MONROVIA PRETORIA CAPE TOWN FEB 12, 1976 FROM SECSTATE

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 034135

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, AO, US

SUBJECT: ALLEGED DETENTION OF US CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT

1. SUMMARY: SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS REPORTS INDICATE THAT A  
PASSENGER PLANE OF US REGISTRY BEING FERRIED FROM THE  
UNITED STATES TO WINDHOEK WENT OFF COURSE AND LANDED BY  
ERROR AT SANTO ANTONIO DO ZAIRE IN NORTHERN ANGOLA.  
ACCORDING TO ACCOUNTS WE HAVE SEEN, THE MPLA IS HOLDING  
THE PILOT AND COPILOT, BOTH US CITIZENS ON SUSPICION OF  
AIDING FNLA AND UNITA. THE DEPARTMENT WANTS TO FIND OUT  
FROM ACTION ADDRESSEES WHETHER, IF THE FACTS ARE AS  
STATED, IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO ASK HOST GOVERNMENT TO  
INTERVENE TO OBTAIN THE RELEASE OF THE CREW AND THE  
PLANE. END SUMMARY

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2. WE HAVE SEEN THE REPORTS THAT HAVE APPEARED IN THE

SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS TO THE EFFECT THAT A US PLANE LANDED IN ANGOLA AND IS NOW BEING DETAINED BY THE MPLA IN THE NORTHERN ANGOLAN TOWN OF SANTO ANTONIO DO ZAIRE. WE HAVE CONFIRMED THAT AN FH-227B TURBO PROP PASSENGER PLANE (SIMILAR TO BUT LARGER THAN F-27) WAS BEING FERRIED BY WORLD AVIATION SERVICES INC. FROM THE UNITED STATES TO WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA. THE PLANE, US REGISTRY NUMBER N-7823M, IS OWNED BY ALLEGHENY AIRLINES AND IS

PILOTED BY ROGER A. CARLEY A US CITIZEN. THE COPILOT, RICHARD K. FUSAKIO, IS ALSO A US CITIZEN. THE PLANE IS DESTINED FOR SOUTHWEST AIRLINES OF NAMIBIA, A SUBSIDIARY OF SAF MARINE.

3. ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMATION, THE PILOT HAD PLANNED TO LEAVE ROBERTS FIELD LIBERIA AND MAKE A REFUELING STOP AT SAO TOME, IN THE ATLANTIC, AND THEN FLY STRAIGHT TO WINDHOEK, STAYING AT LEAST 200 MILES OFFSHORE FROM ANGOLA. ACCORDING TO ONE ACCOUNT, THE PILOT MISSED SAO TOME AND LANDED AS AN EMERGENCY MEASURE IN SAO ANTONIO DO ZAIRE. THE MPLA IS SAID TO HAVE CHARGED THAT THE PLANE FLEW IN TO HELP MERCENARIES FIGHTING FOR THE FNLA AND UNITA. THERE IS NO SUBSTANCE TO THIS CHARGE. THE PLANE CARRIES 50,000 DOLLARS WORTH OF SPARE PARTS THAT CAN ONLY BE USED ON THAT AIRCRAFT.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: ACTION ADDRESSEES ARE REQUESTED TO INFORM THE DEPARTMENT BY IMMEDIATE CABLE WHETHER AN APPROACH TO THE HOST GOVERNMENT TO INTERVENE TO OBTAIN THE RELEASE OF THE CREW AND PLANE WOULD BE PRODUCTIVE. THE HOST GOVERNMENTS OF ALL ACTION ADDRESSEES ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE DIPLOMATIC OR OTHER REPRESENTATION IN LUANDA AT THIS TIME. ALL ADDRESSEES SHOULD IMMEDIATELY REPORT ANY INFORMATION THAT WOULD CONTRADICT OR EXPAND UPON THE FACTS AS SET FORTH ABOVE. INGERSOLL UNQ UOTE KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** CASC, PFOR, AO, US, UNITA, FNLA, MPLA, ALLEGHENY AIRLINES, (THORPE, DONALD W), (CARLEY, ROGER A)  
**To:** DAR ES SALAAM  
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